

Remarks/Arguments:

Disposition of the Claims

Claims 1-8, 10 and 15-23 have been canceled.

Claim 25 which is directed to a specific compound of the invention has been added. Support for Claim can be found in Example 1 on page 62, line 1 to page 68, line 7 of the specification.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-8, 10 and 15-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph stating that the specification is enabling for treating tumour cells (see Office Action, page 2, line 13) but does not reasonable provide enablement for various cancers and other disorders associated with Aurora kinase and that the specification does not enable a person skilled in the art to use the invention commensurate in scope with the claims. In addition, the Examiner has rejected Claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner has indicated that Claim 9 would be allowable if written in independent form and states that, "Species recited in Claim 9 have a phosphate group which is not taught or fairly suggested by the prior art of record." (See Office Action, page 6, lines 18-19).

In order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has canceled Claims 1-8, 10 and 15-23.

Applicant thanks the examiner for finding allowable subject matter in Claim 9 but has left Claim 9 in its original form since it is written in independent form.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of Claim 24 for lack of enablement. Claim 24 is dependent on Claim 9 and claims a pharmaceutical composition comprising the same specific list of compounds as Claim 9 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier. Applicant provides guidance as to suitable pharmaceutically acceptable diluents and carriers on page 39, line 10 to page 42, line 6 of the specification. In addition, Applicant teaches that compounds of the invention give 50% inhibition of Aurora kinase A and Aurora kinase B on specification page 48, lines 10-12 and on page 49, lines 29-31, respectively, at concentrations of 0.3 nM to 1000 nM. The state of the art shows that small molecule inhibitors of Aurora-A and Aurora-B have an antiproliferative effect in human tumour cells (Keen *et al.* 2001, Poster #2455, American Association of Cancer research annual meeting), as has selective abrogation of Aurora-B expression alone by siRNA treatment (Ditchfield *et al.* 2003. Journal of Cell Biology, 161(2): 267-280). In addition, the Examiner has

stated that the state of the art teaches that Aurora kinases are implicated in colorectal cancers and solid tumours (see Office Action, page 4, lines 4-5). Since the level of skill in the art is high, a skilled clinician would be able to identify an effective pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more of the specific compounds listed in Claim 24 with no more than routine experimentation.

New Claim 25

New Claim 25 claims (1-(3-((4-((5-(2-((3-fluorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoethyl)-1,3-thiazol-2-yl)amino)-6-methoxyquinazolin-7-yl)oxy)propyl)piperidin-4-yl)methyl dihydrogen phosphate, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. This is the first compound listed in Claim 9. Since the Examiner has indicated that Claim 9 is allowable, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner find new Claim 25 which claims one specific compound listed in Claim 9 allowable.

Summary and Conclusions

The above amendments have been made without prejudice to Applicant's right to prosecute any cancelled subject matter in a timely filed continuation application.

Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

A petition for a 2 month extension of time is being filed herewith, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees or credit any overpayment to deposit account No. 50-3231, referencing Attorney Docket No. 100937-1P US. Although Applicant believes no additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees or credit any overpayment to deposit account No. 50-3231, referencing Attorney Docket No. 100937-1P US.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Fee Transmittal Form
Petition for Extension of Time (2 months)